

SILVER SPRING CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

September 8, 2014

To the Members of the Montgomery County Council:

Advice from the Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board on the proposed Elizabeth Square Redevelopment

At the June 9, 2014 meeting of the Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board, we received a brief but helpful presentation about the Elizabeth Square development proposal for the block between Fenwick Lane and Apple Avenue and between 2nd Avenue and the railroad tracks, within the Central Business District of Silver Spring.

We write to express the Board's initial support for the project. We were heartened by several aspects of the proposal, including:

- Staging construction to maximize the ability for existing tenants to transfer to the new Elizabeth House building;
- Integrating quality of life- enhancing programs (i.e.: combining wellness with art);
- Creating a new green space in the Central Business District;
- Opening the development to the community, with pedestrian and bike friendly connections; and,
- Providing more housing for families, and maintaining and improving the affordable housing stock.

We hope to have further discussions about the project to maximize the benefit to the existing and new residents as well as to the community at large.

Cordially,

Bernice Mireku-North

Chair, Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board

cc: Ike Leggett, County Executive

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Casey Anderson, Planning Board Chair

Gwen Wright, Planning Director

